

**Research Evaluation and Ranking Form**  
**Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge**

Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Deadline: \_\_\_\_ April 15 \_\_\_\_ November 15

Applicant Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Title or purpose for permit: \_\_\_\_\_

Review Criteria:

- 1) Is the project compatible with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mission of working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people ?  
\_\_\_\_ yes      \_\_\_\_ no      \_\_\_\_ see comments

- 2) Is the project compatible with Sevilleta NWR purposes to preserve and enhance the integrity and the natural character of the ecosystems of the property by creating a wildlife refuge managed as nearly as possible in its natural state ?  
\_\_\_\_ yes      \_\_\_\_ no      \_\_\_\_ see comments

- 3) Is the project compatible with the following refuge goals and objectives?

*Goal 1:      Threatened and endangered species management*

*To provide for the enhancement, preservation, and protection of threatened and endangered species as they occur naturally or were historically present on the refuge so that viable, self-sustaining populations can be restored to their natural habitats.*

*Objectives:      Continue implementation of the Mexican wolf captive propagation program on the refuge, and ensure continued operation within all regulations, protocols, and safety guidelines . . .*

*Preserve refuge habitat diversity including important habitat for threatened and endangered species by preserving and restoring habitats to their natural condition . . .*

*Maintain a viable population of Rio Grande silvery minnows on 3 miles of the Rio Grande that occur within the refuge boundaries.*

*Protect threatened and endangered species on the refuge . . .*

*Promote and support the reintroduction of native threatened and endangered species on the refuge.*

\_\_\_\_ yes      \_\_\_\_ no      \_\_\_\_ see comments

Goal 2: Wildlife and habitat management

*To preserve, restore, and maintain the natural diversity of plants and wildlife as it occurred historically on the refuge.*

Objectives: *To ensure integrity of all naturally occurring biotic communities on the refuge...*

*To maintain migratory bird population levels . . .*

*To reverse declining trends in the quality and quantity of riparian/wetland habitats; restore, maintain, and enhance the species composition, aerial extent, and spatial distribution of riparian/wetland habitats.*

*To protect, restore, and maintain upland terrestrial communities at the landscape level . . .*

*. . . preserve, enhance, and restore hydrological regimes that perpetuate a healthy river ecosystem . . .*

*Compile a database of the baseline natural conditions, processes, and species associated with refuge ecosystems . . .*

*Attain baseline natural conditions, processes, and populations of species...*

*Restore and maintain natural hydrological regimes through restoration of natural springs . . .*

*Minimize human impacts associated with research, road maintenance, construction, and public use on refuge ecosystems. Restrict activities on undisturbed areas.*

*Monitor population status of priority species of neotropical migratory birds, shorebirds, and other nongame migratory birds . . .*

☐ yes      ☐ no      ☐ see comments

Goal 3: Research

*To encourage research by bonafide research institutions and individuals, to provide an atmosphere conducive to investigations into environmental processes on the refuge . . .*

Objectives: *Encourage research that improves management and monitoring of species, communities, and processes on the refuge . . .*

*To permit research from a wide range of interested parties and institutions while protecting the plant and wildlife components of the ecosystem from detrimental human intrusion and manipulative research protocols.*

☐ yes      ☐ no      ☐ see comments

- 4) Will the project help Sevilleta staff accomplish its management goals?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ see comments
- 5) Have measures been incorporated into the project to eliminate any possible adverse effects to plant life and/or wildlife on the refuge?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ see comments
- 6) Have measures been incorporated into the project to eliminate any possible adverse effects on the abiotic environment (soil, water, air)?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ see comments
- 7) Is the project related to other projects on the refuge or in the area?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ see comments
- 8) Is the project unique?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ see comments
- 9) Will the project contribute to the ongoing research effort at Sevilleta NWR (LTER, NEON, others)?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ see comments
- 10) Has the project been peer reviewed? If so, by whom?  
\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no reviewers/institutions: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **\_\_\_ Approved** **\_\_\_ Not Approved** (see comments)

Committee signatures: \_\_\_\_\_

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